

Public Service Commission State of North Dakota

COMMISSIONERS

Julie Fedorchak Randy Christmann Brian P. Kalk

Executive Secretary Darrell Nitschke 600 East Boulevard, Dept. 408 Bismarck, North Dakota 58505-0480

Web: www.psc.nd.gov E-mail: ndpsc@nd.gov Phone: 701-328-2400

Phone: 701-328-2400 ND Toll Free: 1-877-245-6685 Fax: 701-328-2410

Fax: 701-328-2410 TDD: 800-366-6888 or 711

beceived & Inspense

SEP 2 9 2015

September 28, 2015

FCC Med Room

Marlene H. Dortch Office of the Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th St SW Washington DC 20554 USAC Vice President, High Cost and Low Income Division 2000 L Street, NW, Suite 200 Washington DC 20036

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45/WC Docket No. 14-58, Annual State Certification of Support for Eligible Telecommunications Carriers Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.314

Pursuant to the requirements of 47 C.F.R. § 54.314, the North Dakota Public Service Commission hereby certifies to the Federal Communications Commission and the Universal Service Administrative Company that the telecommunications carriers included in the attached table listing of carriers have accounted to the North Dakota Public Service Commission by affidavit that all federal support they receive will be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, consistent with section 254 (e) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended. These companies are eligible to receive federal high-cost support.

Enclosed is a copy of the September 28, 2015 Order of the North Dakota Public Service Commission and the affidavits from the companies listed.

Enclosed is a copy of the September 28, 2015 Order of the North Dakota Public Service Commission designating North Dakota Telephone Company as an eligible telecommunications carrier for access lines that were previously in study area code 381638 that will now be in study area code 381447.

Enclosed is a copy of the affidavit of North Dakota Telephone Company accounting to the North Dakota Public Service Commission by affidavit that all federal support it receives, for the access lines being transferred, will be used only for the provision, maintenance, and

| No. of Copies rec'd |
|---------------------|
| |

upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, consistent with section 254 (e) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.

Best regards,

Patrick Fahn

Director, Compliance and Competitive Markets

ND Public Service Commission Contact phone: 701-328-4077

Enclosures

| Telecommunications Carrier | | Study Area Code |
|--|------------------|--|
| Absaraka Co-operative Telephone Company, Inc. | Rural | 381601 |
| Badlands Cellular of North Dakota Limited Partnership | CETC | 389009 |
| BEK Communications Cooperative | Rural | 381604 |
| Citizens Telecommunications Company of Minnesota, LLC | Rural | 381131 |
| Consolidated Communications Networks, Inc. | Rural | 386325 |
| Consolidated Telcom | Rural | 381607 |
| Dakota Central Telecom I, Inc. | Rural | 381610 |
| Dakota Central Telecommunications Cooperative | Rural | 381610 |
| Dickey Rural Telephone Cooperative | Rural | 381611 |
| Griggs County Telephone Co. | Rural | 381615 & 381622 |
| Halstad Telephone Company | Rural-MN & ND | 361401 & 389002 |
| Inter-Community Telephone Company, L.L.C. | Rural | 381616 |
| James Valley Telecommunications | Rural-SD | 391664 |
| Loretel Systems, Inc. | Rural-MN | 361443 |
| Midcontinent Communications | CETC | 389011 |
| Mid-Rivers Telephone Cooperative Inc. | Rural-MT | 482246 |
| Midstate Communications Inc. | Rural | 381638 |
| Midstate Telephone Company, LLC | Rural | 381617 |
| Missouri Valley Communications, Inc. | Rural | 382247 |
| Nemont Telephone Cooperative Inc. | Rural | 382247 |
| New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC | CETC | 389015 |
| North Central RSA 2 of North Dakota Limited Partnership | CETC | 389006 |
| North Dakota 5- Kidder Limited Partnership | CETC | 389010 |
| North Dakota Network Co. | CETC | 389004 |
| North Dakota RSA No. 3 Limited Partnership | CETC | 389008 |
| North Dakota Telephone Company | Rural | 381447 |
| Northwest Communications Cooperative, a Cooperative Association | Rural | 381625 |
| Northwest Dakota Cellular of North Dakota Limited Partnership | CETC | 389007 |
| Polar Communications Mutual Aid Corporation dba Polar Communications | Rural | 381630 & 381614 |
| Polar Telcom, Inc. | Rural | 389003 |
| Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC | Non-rural | 385144 |
| RC Technologies | Rural-SD | 399010 & 391674 |
| Red River Rural Telephone Association dba Red River | Rural | 381631 |
| Communications | | |
| Reservation Telephone Cooperative | Rural | 381632 |
| Sagebrush Cellular, Inc. | CETC & | 389013, 388001, |
| J | Mobility | 388002, 388003, 388004, 388005, 388006 |
| SRT Communications, Inc. | Rural | 383303 |
| Turtle Mountain Communications, Inc. | Rural | 381636 |
| United Telephone Mutual Aid Corporation | Rural | 381636 |
| Venture Communications Cooperative | Rural-SD | 391680 |
| West River Telecommunications Cooperative | Rural | 381637 |
| Wolverton Telephone Company | Rural | 381509 |

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

SEP 2 9 2015

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

FGC Mell Rosen

Public Service Commission
USF Use Certification 47 CFR 54.314 (2016)
Compliance

Case No. PU-15-574

ORDER ON CERTIFYING USE OF FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICES SUPPORT

September 28, 2015

Section 254(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (Act) requires that telecommunications carriers use universal service support "only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which support is intended." Code of Federal Regulations Title 47, Section 54.314(a) requires: "States that desire eligible telecommunications carriers to receive support pursuant to the high-cost program must file an annual certification with the Administrator and the Commission stating that all federal high-cost support provided to such carriers within that State was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended." State certification must be filed no later than October 1 of each year in order for certified telecommunications carriers to receive support for the following year, 47 C.F.R. § 54.314(d).

On August 28, 2002, the North Dakota Public Service Commission (NDPSC) issued an order in Case No. PU-439-02-441 indicating that any telecommunications carrier providing local exchange service in North Dakota that desires to have NDPSC certification to the FCC under 47 C.F.R. §54.314 shall file an affidavit with the NDPSC by September 14 of each year, as described in the order, certifying that federal support they receive is used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended as required by Section 254(e). The NDPSC further ordered that affidavits filed with the NDPSC will be the basis for the NDPSC's certification to the FCC.

Affidavits regarding use of federal universal service support were filed with the NDPSC by the companies listed in the ordering clause below.

Under North Dakota law, the NDPSC has limited jurisdiction over rural telecommunications carriers. The FCC in its order recognized that some states have only limited regulatory oversight to ensure that federal universal support is reflected in intrastate rates and concluded that such states may nonetheless certify to the FCC that carriers in the state had accounted to the state commission for receipt of federal support, and that the support will be used as required under Section 254(e). (See

48

Fourteenth R&O at ¶ 188). The FCC also recognized that some carriers may not be subject to the jurisdiction of a state regulatory authority, and in those instances carriers can certify directly to the FCC by means of a sworn affidavit executed by a corporate officer attesting to the use of the support only for purposes permitted under the Act. (See Fourteenth R&O at ¶ 189).

Based on the foregoing, the NDPSC issues the following:

Order

1. The NDPSC certifies that the following Eligible Telecommunications Carriers providing local exchange service in North Dakota have accounted to the NDPSC by affidavit that all federal support that was used in the preceding calendar year and all federal support that will be used in the coming calendar year will be used for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, under and consistent with Section 254(e) of the Act and 47 C.F.R. § 54.101, throughout the company's study area.

Absaraka Co-operative Telephone Company, Inc. Badlands Cellular of North Dakota Limited Partnership **BEK Communications Cooperative** Citizens Telecommunications Company of Minnesota, LLC **Consolidated Communications** Networks. Inc. Consolidated Telcom Dakota Central Telecom I, Inc. **Dakota Central Telecommunications** Cooperative Dickey Rural Telephone Cooperative Griggs County Telephone Co. 381622, 381615 Halstad Telephone Company Inter-Community Telephone Company, L.L.C. James Valley Cooperative Telephone Company Loretel Systems, Inc. Midstate Communications Inc. Midstate Telephone Company, LLC Missouri Valley Communications, Inc. Nemont Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

North Central RSA 2 of North Dakota Limited Partnership Northwest Dakota Cellular of North Dakota Limited Partnership North Dakota RSA No. 3 Limited **Partnership** North Dakota 5 - Kidder Limited Partnership North Dakota Network Co. North Dakota Telephone Company Northwest Communications Cooperative, A Cooperative Association Polar Communications Mutual Aid Corporation d/b/a Polar Communications Polar Telcom, Inc. Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC RC Technologies Red River Rural Telephone Association d/b/a Red River Communications Reservation Telephone Cooperative Sagebrush Cellular, Inc. SRT Communications, Inc. Turtle Mountain Communications, Inc. **United Telephone Mutual Aid Corporation Venture Communications Cooperative** West River Telecommunications Cooperative

New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC

Wolverton Telephone Company

2. The NDPSC certifies that the following Eligible Telecommunications Carriers providing local exchange service in North Dakota have accounted to the NDPSC by affidavit that it only used federal support in 2014 and will only use support in 2016 for for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended pursuant to and consistent with Section 254(e) of the Act and 47 C.F.R. § 54.7.

Mid-Rivers Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

3. The NDPSC certifies that the following Eligible Telecommunications Carriers providing local exchange service in North Dakota have accounted to the NDPSC by affidavit that federal support received during 2014 was used, and in 2015 will be used for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended.

Midcontinent Communications

- 4. The NDPSC certification is based upon the affidavits filed by the foregoing named Eligible Telecommunications Carriers.
- 5. The North Dakota Public Service Commission will send a copy of each of the filed affidavits to the Federal Communications Commission and the Universal Service Administrative Company.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Rangy Christmann

ilje Fedorchak

Brian P. Kalk

Commissioner

BEFORE THE NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION IN CASE NO. PU-439-02-441 AND BEFORE THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION IN WC DOCKET NO. 10-90

AFFIDAVIT OF CONSOLIDATED TELCOM REGARDING CERTIFICATION OF USE OF FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICE SUPPORTREceived & Inspected

| State of North Dakota |) | SEP 2 9 2015 |
|-----------------------|------------|-------------------|
| County of Stark |) ss.) | |
| David Oake at the t | | FCC Mail Room |

Paul Schuetzler, being first duly sworn on oath, does hereby declare and state upon affiant's own personal knowledge as follows:

- 1. Affiant is employed by Consolidated Telcom (hereinafter, the "Company"), in the position of Manager.
- 2. The Company is an eligible telecommunications carrier within the meaning of Section 214(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 (hereinafter, the "Act"), and the Company is eligible to receive federal high-cost universal service support (hereinafter, the "Support") pursuant to Section 254(e) of the Act. The North Dakota Public Service Commission (hereinafter, the "NDPSC") has designated the Company as an eligible telecommunications carrier.
- 3. Affiant is personally familiar with all of the Support received by the Company, and with how the Company uses all of Support that it receives.
- 4. The Company is filing this affidavit in compliance with the order of the Federal Communication Commission (hereinafter, "FCC") dated May 23, 2001, in WC Docket Number 10-90 (FCC 01-157) (hereinafter, the "Order"), as codified in 47 C.F.R. § 54.314, which requires certification to the FCC that all federal Support was used in the preceding Calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year by carriers within each state only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, as required by Section 254(e) of the Act and 47 C.F.R. § 54.7. The Company is also filing this affidavit in compliance with the Orders of the NDPSC dated August 28, 2001, in Case No. PU-439-01-460 and dated August 28, 2002, in Case No. PU-439-02-441. This affidavit is filed to facilitate the Company's receipt of federal Support for all four quarters of 2014 and for all quarters thereafter.
- 5. The Company hereby certifies that all federal high-cost support provided to Consolidated Telcom was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended pursuant to and consistent with Section 254(e) of the Act and 47 C.F.R. § 54.7. The Company will use the Support for the following services, as designated in 47 C.F.R. Section 54.101, throughout the Company's study area: (a) voice

grade access to the public switched network or its functional equivalent; (b) minutes of use for local service at no additional charge; (c) access to emergency services; and (d) toll limitation services to qualifying low-income consumers.

| Dated this <u>24</u> day of <u>July</u> | , 2015. |
|---|---|
| | CONSOLIDATED TELCOM |
| | By Schuetzler Its: Manager |
| State of North Dakota)) ss. | |
| County of Stark) | |
| the Manager of CONSOLIDATED TELCOM | , 2015, before me, a Notary Public in and ired PAUL SCHUETZLER, known to me to be 1, the corporation that is described in and that yledged to me that such corporation executed |
| BRYAN W PERSONNE NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA MY COMMISSION EXPIRES JUNE 23, 2017 | Notary Public For the State of North Dakota My commission expires: Tune 23, 201 |

BEFORE THE NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION IN CASE NO. PU-439-02-441 AND BEFORE THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION IN WC DOCKET NO. 10-90

AFFIDAVIT OF CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS, INC. REGARDING

| CERTIFICATION | OF USE OF FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICE SUPPORT | r Mecelved & Inscocia |
|-----------------------|---|--------------------------|
| State of North Dakota |) | ~ ≈ Ins _{iects} |
| County of Stark |) ss.) | SEP 2 9 2015 |
| | | FCCherry |

Paul Schuetzler, being first duly sworn on oath, does hereby declare and state upon affiant's own personal knowledge as follows:

- 1. Affiant is employed by Consolidated Communications Networks, Inc. (hereinafter, the "Company"), in the position of Manager.
- 2. The Company is an eligible telecommunications carrier within the meaning of Section 214(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 (hereinafter, the "Act"), and the Company is eligible to receive federal high-cost universal service support (hereinafter, the "Support") pursuant to Section 254(e) of the Act. The North Dakota Public Service Commission (hereinafter, the "NDPSC") has designated the Company as an eligible telecommunications carrier.
- 3. Affiant is personally familiar with all of the Support received by the Company, and with how the Company uses all of Support that it receives.
- 4. The Company is filing this affidavit in compliance with the order of the Federal Communication Commission (hereinafter, "FCC") dated May 23, 2001, in WC Docket Number 10-90 (FCC 01-157) (hereinafter, the "Order"), as codified in 47 C.F.R. § 54.314, which requires certification to the FCC that all federal Support was used in the preceding Calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year by carriers within each state only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, as required by Section 254(e) of the Act and 47 C.F.R. § 54.7. The Company is also filing this affidavit in compliance with the Orders of the NDPSC dated August 28, 2001, in Case No. PU-439-01-460 and dated August 28, 2002, in Case No. PU-439-02-441. This affidavit is filed to facilitate the Company's receipt of federal Support for all four quarters of 2014 and for all quarters thereafter.
- 5. The Company hereby certifies that all federal high-cost support provided to Consolidated Telcom was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended pursuant to and consistent with Section 254(e) of the Act and 47 C.F.R. § 54.7. The Company will use the Support for the following services, as designated in 47 C.F.R. Section 54.101, throughout the Company's study area: (a) voice

grade access to the public switched network or its functional equivalent; (b) minutes of use for local service at no additional charge; (c) access to emergency services; and (d) toll limitation services to qualifying low-income consumers.

| . , , | |
|---|--|
| Dated this <u>24</u> day of <u>July</u> | , 2015. |
| | CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS, INC. |
| | By Schuetzler Its: Manager |
| State of North Dakota)) ss. | |
| County of Stark) | |
| for said County and State, personally appear the Manager of CONSOLIDATED COMMUNI | , 2015, before me, a Notary Public in and red PAUL SCHUETZLER, known to me to be CATIONS NETWORKS, INC., the corporation hin instrument, and acknowledged to me that |
| BRYAN W PERSONNE NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA MY COMMISSION EXPIRES JUNE 23, 2017 | Notary Public' For the State of North Dakota My commission expires: June 33, 30, 17 |

BEFORE THE NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION IN CASE NO. PU-439-02-441 AND BEFORE THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION IN WC DOCKET NO. 10-90

AFFIDAVIT OF BEK COMMUNICATIONS COOPERATIVE REGARDING CERTIFICATION OF USE OF FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICE SUPPORT

| State of North Dakota | | Received & Inspected |
|---|---|-----------------------|
| County of Kidder) | SS. | SEP 20 |
| Derrick Bulawa, being affiant's own personal know | g first duly sworn on oath, does hereby dec rledge as follows: | lare and state upon 5 |
| amant's own personal know | reuge as ionows. | The Com |

Affiant is employed by BEK Communications Cooperative (hereinafter, the "Company"), in the position of Manager.

- The Company is an eligible telecommunications carrier within the meaning of Section 214(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 (hereinafter, the "Act"), and the Company is eligible to receive federal high-cost universal service support (hereinafter, the "Support") pursuant to Section 254(e) of the Act. The North Dakota Public Service Commission (hereinafter, the "NDPSC") has designated the Company as an eligible telecommunications carrier.
- Affiant is personally familiar with all of the Support received by the Company, and with how the Company uses all of Support that it receives.
- The Company is filing this affidavit in compliance with the order of the Federal Communication Commission (hereinafter, "FCC") dated May 23, 2001, in WC Docket Number 10-90 (FCC 01-157) (hereinafter, the "Order"), as codified in 47 C.F.R. § 54.314, which requires certification to the FCC that all federal Support was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year by carriers within each state only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, as required by Section 254(e) of the Act and 47 C.F.R. § 54.7. The Company is also filing this affidavit in compliance with the Orders of the NDPSC dated August 28, 2001, in Case No. PU-439-01-460 and dated August 28, 2002, in Case No. PU-439-02-441. This affidavit is filed to facilitate the Company's receipt of federal Support for all four quarters of 2014 and for all quarters thereafter.
- 5. The Company hereby certifies that all federal high-cost support provided to BEK Communications Cooperative was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended pursuant to and consistent with Section 254(e) of the Act and 47 C.F.R.§ 54.7. The Company will use the Support for the following services, as designated in 47 C.F.R. Section 54.101, throughout the Company's

equivalent; (b) minutes of use for local service at no additional charge; (c) access to emergency services; and (d) toll limitation services to qualifying low-income consumers. Dated this 23 day of 30, 2015. **BEK COMMUNICATIONS COOPERATIVE** Derrick Bulawa Its: Manager State of North Dakota) ss. County of Kidder On this 23 day of 3 __, 2015, before me, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, personally appeared DERRICK BULAWA, known to me to be the Manager of BEK COMMUNICATIONS COOPERATIVE, the corporation that is described in and that executed the within instrument, and acknowledged to me that such corporation executed the same. JUDITH A. HINTZ For the State of North Dakota Notary Public بىلىن<u>ل</u>:My commission expires State of North Dakota My Commission Expires July 21, 2016

study area: (a) voice grade access to the public switched network or its functional

BEFORE THE NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION IN CASE NO. PU-439-02-441 AND BEFORE THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION IN WC DOCKET NO. 10-90

AFFIDAVIT OF DAKOTA CENTRAL TELECOM I, INC. REGARDING CERTIFICATION OF USE OF FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICE SUPPORT

| State of North Dakota |) | Received & Inspects |
|--|------------|---|
| County of Foster |) ss.) | SEP 200 |
| Keith Larson, bein affiant's own personal kn | | th, does hereby declare and state upon 2015 |

- 1. Affiant is employed by Dakota Central Telecom I, Inc. (hereinafter, the "Company"), in the position of Manager.
- 2. The Company is an eligible telecommunications carrier within the meaning of Section 214(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 (hereinafter, the "Act"), and the Company is eligible to receive federal high-cost universal service support (hereinafter, the "Support") pursuant to Section 254(e) of the Act. The North Dakota Public Service Commission (hereinafter, the "NDPSC") has designated the Company as an eligible telecommunications carrier.
- 3. Affiant is personally familiar with all of the Support received by the Company, and with how the Company uses all of Support that it receives.
- 4. The Company is filing this affidavit in compliance with the order of the Federal Communication Commission (hereinafter, "FCC") dated May 23, 2001, in WC Docket Number 10-90 (FCC 01-157) (hereinafter, the "Order"), as codified in 47 C.F.R. § 54.314, which requires certification to the FCC that all federal Support was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year by carriers within each state only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, as required by Section 254(e) of the Act and 47 C.F.R. § 54.7. The Company is also filing this affidavit in compliance with the Orders of the NDPSC dated August 28, 2001, in Case No. PU-439-01-460 and dated August 28, 2002, in Case No. PU-439-02-441. This affidavit is filed to facilitate the Company's receipt of federal Support for all four quarters of 2014 and for all quarters thereafter.
- 5. The Company hereby certifies that all federal high-cost support provided to Dakota Central Telecom I, Inc. was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended pursuant to and consistent with Section 254(e) of the Act and 47 C.F.R. § 54.7. The Company will use the Support for the following services, as designated in 47 C.F.R. Section 54.101, throughout the Company's

| study area: (a) voice grade access to the public switched network or its functional equivalent; (b) minutes of use for local service at no additional charge; (c) access to emergency services; and (d) toll limitation services to qualifying low-income consumers. | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| Dated this 23 day of July | , 2015. | | |
| | DAKOTA CENTRAL TELECOM I, INC. | | |
| | By Kerd A forson | | |
| | Keith Larson | | |
| | Its: Manager | | |
| State of North Dakota)) ss. | | | |
| County of Foster) | | | |
| On this 23 day of July | , 2015, before me, a Notary Public in | | |
| and for said County and State, personally appeared KEITH LARSON, known to me to be the Manager of DAKOTA CENTRAL TELECOM I, Inc., the corporation that is described in | | | |
| and that executed the within instrument, and acknowledged to me that such corporation | | | |
| executed the same. | | | |
| | Loui Solber | | |
| LORI SOLBERG | Notary Public | | |
| Notary Public State of North Dakota | For the State of North Dakota | | |
| My Commission Expires Dec. 3, 2020 | My commission expires: 12/3/20 | | |

BEFORE THE NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION IN CASE NO. PU-439-02-441 AND BEFORE THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION IN WC DOCKET NO. 10-90

AFFIDAVIT OF NORTH DAKOTA TELEPHONE COMPANY REGARDING CERTIFICATION OF USE OF FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICE SUPPORT

| State of North Dakota |) | Proceived . |
|--|---|---------------------|
| County of Ramsey |) ss.) | See Mines |
| Dave Dircks, being affiant's own personal kn | g first duly sworn on oath, does hereby declare a owledge as follows: | and state upon 2015 |

- 1. Affiant is employed by North Dakota Telephone Company (hereinafter, the "Company"), in the position of Manager.
- 2. The Company is an eligible telecommunications carrier within the meaning of Section 214(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 (hereinafter, the "Act"), and the Company is eligible to receive federal high-cost universal service support (hereinafter, the "Support") pursuant to Section 254(e) of the Act. The North Dakota Public Service Commission (hereinafter, the "NDPSC") has designated the Company as an eligible telecommunications carrier.
- 3. Affiant is personally familiar with all of the Support received by the Company, and with how the Company uses all of Support that it receives.
- 4. The Company is filing this affidavit in compliance with the order of the Federal Communication Commission (hereinafter, "FCC") dated May 23, 2001, in WC Docket Number 10-90 (FCC 01-157) (hereinafter, the "Order"), as codified in 47 C.F.R. § 54.314, which requires certification to the FCC that all federal Support was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year by carriers within each state only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, as required by Section 254(e) of the Act and 47 C.F.R. § 54.7. The Company is also filing this affidavit in compliance with the Orders of the NDPSC dated August 28, 2001, in Case No. PU-439-01-460 and dated August 28, 2002, in Case No. PU-439-02-441. This affidavit is filed to facilitate the Company's receipt of federal Support for all four quarters of 2014 and for all quarters thereafter.
- 5. The Company hereby certifies that all federal high-cost support provided to North Dakota Telephone Company was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended pursuant to and consistent with Section 254(e) of the Act and 47 C.F.R. § 54.7. The Company will use the Support for the following services, as designated in 47 C.F.R. Section 54.101, throughout the Company's study area: (a) voice grade access to the public switched network or its functional

| equivalent; (b) minutes of use for local service at no additional charge; (c) access to emergency services; and (d) toll limitation services to qualifying low-income consumers. | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| Dated this <u>21th day of July</u> , 2015. | | | |
| NORTH DAKOTA TELEPHONE COMPANY | | | |
| By Dave Dircks Its: Manager | | | |
| State of North Dakota)) ss. | | | |
| County of Ramsey) | | | |
| On this 27th day of, 2015, before me, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, personally appeared DAVE DIRCKS, known to me to be the Manager of NORTH DAKOTA TELEPHONE COMPANY, the corporation that is described in and that executed the within instrument, and acknowledged to me that such corporation executed the same. | | | |
| Notary Public | | | |
| SHAWNA M SENGER Notary Public State of North Dakota My Commission Expires Feb. 3,2016 For the State of North Dakota My commission expires: 3/3/16 | | | |

BEFORE THE NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION IN CASE NO. PU-439-02-441 AND BEFORE THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION IN WC DOCKET NO. 10-90

AFFIDAVIT OF DAKOTA CENTRAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS COOPERATIVE REGARDING CERTIFICATION OF USE OF FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICE SUPPORT

| State of North Dakota |) |
|-----------------------|------------|
| County of Foster |) ss.) |

of North Dakota)
) ss.
y of Foster)

Keith Larson, being first duly sworn on oath, does hereby declare and state upon the same of the suited as a follows: affiant's own personal knowledge as follows:

- Affiant is employed by Dakota Central Telecommunications Coopi 1. (hereinafter, the "Company"), in the position of Manager.
- The Company is an eligible telecommunications carrier within the meaning of 2. Section 214(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 (hereinafter, the "Act"), and the Company is eligible to receive federal high-cost universal service support (hereinafter, the "Support") pursuant to Section 254(e) of the Act. The North Dakota Public Service Commission (hereinafter, the "NDPSC") has designated the Company as an eligible telecommunications carrier.
- Affiant is personally familiar with all of the Support received by the Company, and with how the Company uses all of Support that it receives.
- The Company is filing this affidavit in compliance with the order of the Federal 4. Communication Commission (hereinafter, "FCC") dated May 23, 2001, in WC Docket Number 10-90 (FCC 01-157) (hereinafter, the "Order"), as codified in 47 C.F.R. § 54.314, which requires certification to the FCC that all federal Support was used in the preceding Calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year by carriers within each state only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, as required by Section 254(e) of the Act and 47 C.F.R. § 54.7. The Company is also filing this affidavit in compliance with the Orders of the NDPSC dated August 28, 2001, in Case No. PU-439-01-460 and dated August 28, 2002, in Case No. PU-439-02-441. This affidavit is filed to facilitate the Company's receipt of federal Support for all four quarters of 2014 and for all quarters thereafter.
- The Company hereby certifies that all federal high-cost support provided to Dakota Central Telecommunications Cooperative was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended pursuant to and consistent with Section 254(e) of the Act and 47 C.F.R. § 54.7. The Company will use the Support for the following services, as designated in 47 C.F.R. Section 54.101, throughout the Company's study area: (a) voice grade access to the public switched network or its

functional equivalent; (b) minutes of use for local service at no additional charge; (c) access to emergency services; and (d) toll limitation services to qualifying low-income consumers. Dated this 23 day of July

DAKOTA CENTRAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS COOPERATIVE Keith Larson Its: Manager

State of North Dakota) ss. **County of Foster**

On this 23 day of July ____, 2015, before me, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, personally appeared KEITH LARSON, known to me to be the Manager of DAKOTA CENTRAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS COOPERATIVE, the corporation that is described in and that executed the within instrument, and acknowledged to me that such corporation executed the same.

LORI SOLBERG Notary Public State of North Dakota My Commission Expires Dec. 3, 2020

For the State of North Dakota My commission expires: 12/3/20

BEFORE THE BEFORE THE NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION SED CASE NO. PU-15-574

AND BEFORE THE

RAL_COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION, WC DOCKET NOS. 10-90 and 14-58

AFFIDAVIT OF

NORTH CENTRAL RSA 2 OF NORTH DAKOTA LIMITED PARTNERSHIP REGARDING CERTIFICATION OF USE OF FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICE SUPPORT

The undersigned, being first duly sworn on oath, does hereby declare and state upon affiant's own personal knowledge as follows:

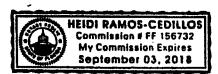
- Affiant is the corporate officer responsible for certifying the use of high-cost 1. federal universal service support (hereinafter "Support") by North Central RSA 2 of North Dakota Limited Partnership (hereinafter "Company").
- The Company is an eligible telecommunications carrier within the meaning of Section 214(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 (hereinafter "Act"), and the Company is eligible to receive federal Support pursuant to Section 254(e) of the Act. By Order dated February 25, 2004, in Case No. PU-386-03-598, the North Dakota Public Service Commission (hereinafter "NDPSC") designated the Company as an eligible telecommunications carrier. The Universal Service Administrative Company ("USAC") has assigned study area code ("SAC") 389006 to the Company.
- Affiant is personally familiar with all of the Support to be received by the Company, and with how the Company will use all of the Support that it receives.
- The Company is filing this affidavit in compliance with 47 C.F.R. § 54.314, which requires certification by the state to the FCC and USAC that all high-cost federal Support will be used by carriers within each state only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the Support is intended, as required by Section 254(e) of the Act and 47 C.F.R. § 54.7. The Company is also filing this affidavit in compliance with the NDPSC's Orders concerning certification as to the use of federal Support, including the NDPSC's August 28, 2002 Order in Case No. PU-439-02-441 and the July 21, 2015 Notice issued by Patrick Fahn in Case No. PU-15-574. This affidavit is filed to facilitate the Company's receipt of federal Support for all four quarters of 2016.
- The Company hereby certifies that the federal Support received during the preceding calendar year, and to be used in the coming calendar year, was and will be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the Support is intended, pursuant to and consistent with Section 254(e) of the Act and 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.7 and 54.314.

| | 2014 | | | |
|-------|----------|-----|----------|------|
| Dated | this 28# | day | of July, | 2015 |

) ss.

North Central RSA 2 of North Dakota Limited Partners lip By Joseph Wurst Assistant Secretary of CommNet Cellular Inc. d/b/a Verizon Wireless, Managing Agent of North Central RSA 2 of North Dakota Limited Partnership

On this 28th day of July____, 2015, before me, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, personally appeared Joseph Wurst, Assistant Secretary of CommNet Cellular Inc. d/b/a Verizon Wireless, Managing Agent of North Central RSA 2 of North Dakota Limited Partnership.



State of Florida

County of Seminole)

Medi Ramos-Codillos

Notary Public

My Commission expires September 3, 2018

BEFORE THE NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION, CASE NO. PU-15-574 AND BEFORE THE COMMISSION, WC DOCKETS NO.

AND BEFORE THE
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION, WC DOCKETS NO. 10-90 and 14-58

AFFIDAVIT OF

NORTH DAKOTA 5 - KIDDER LIMITED PARTNERSHIP REGARDING CERTIFICATION OF USE OF FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICE SUPPORT

The undersigned, being first duly sworn on oath, does hereby declare and state upon affiant's own personal knowledge as follows:

- Affiant is the corporate officer responsible for certifying the use of high-cost federal universal service support (hereinafter "Support") by North Dakota 5 - Kidder Limited Partnership (hereinafter "Company").
- The Company is an eligible telecommunications carrier within the meaning of Section 214(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 (hereinafter "Act"), and the Company is eligible to receive federal Support pursuant to Section 254(e) of the Act. By Order dated February 25, 2004, in Case No. PU-1226-03-597, the North Dakota Public Service Commission (hereinafter "NDPSC") designated the Company as an eligible telecommunications carrier. The Universal Service Administrative Company ("USAC") has assigned study area code ("SAC") 389010 to the Company.
- Affiant is personally familiar with all of the Support to be received by the Company, and with how the Company will use all of the Support that it receives.
- The Company is filing this affidavit in compliance with 47 C.F.R. § 54.314, which requires certification by the state to the FCC and USAC that all high-cost federal Support will be used by carriers within each state only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services within which the Support is intended, as required by Section 254(e) of the Act and 47 C.F.R. § 54.7. The Company is also filing this affidavit in compliance with the NDPSC's Orders concerning certification as to the use of federal Support, including the NDPSC's August 28, 2002 Order in Case No. PU-439-02-441 and the Notice issued by Patrick Fahn on July 21, 2015 in Case No. PU-15-574. This affidavit is filed to facilitate the Company's receipt of federal Support for all four quarters of 2016.
- The Company hereby certifies that the federal Support received during the preceding 5. calendar year, and to be used in the coming calendar year, was and will be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the Support is intended, pursuant to and consistent with Section 254(e) of the Act and 47 C.F.R. § 54.7 and 54.314.

Dated this 28#day of July, 2015.

| | | Joseph Wurst Assistant Secre d/b/a Verizon | etary of CommNet Cellular I Wireless, Managing Agent 5 - Kidder Limited Partnership | | | |
|---|------------|--|---|----|--|--|
| State of Florida County of Seminole |)) ss. | | | | | |
| On this day of July, 2015, before me, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, personally appeared Joseph Wurst, Assistant Secretary of CommNet Cellular Inc. d/b/a Verizon Wireless, Managing Agent of North Dakota 5 - Kidder Limited Partnership. | | | | | | |
| | | Notary Public | mos-Cedillos xpires September 3, 20 | 18 | | |

BEFORE THE SEP 29 2015 AND BEFORE THE AND BEFORE THE AND BEFORE THE AND BEFORE THE

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION, WC DOCKETS NO. 10-90 and 14-58

AFFIDAVIT OF

BADLANDS CELLULAR OF NORTH DAKOTA LIMITED PARTNERSHIP REGARDING CERTIFICATION OF USE OF FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICE SUPPORT

The undersigned, being first duly sworn on oath, does hereby declare and state upon affiant's own personal knowledge as follows:

- Affiant is the corporate officer responsible for certifying the use of high-cost 1. federal universal service support (hereinafter "Support") by Badlands Cellular of North Dakota Limited Partnership (hereinafter "Company").
- The Company is an eligible telecommunications carrier within the meaning of Section 214(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 (hereinafter "Act"), and the Company is eligible to receive federal Support pursuant to Section 254(e) of the Act. By Order dated February 25, 2004, in Case No. PU-1226-03-597, the North Dakota Public Service Commission (hereinafter "NDPSC") designated the Company as an eligible telecommunications carrier. The Universal Service Administrative Company ("USAC") has assigned study area code ("SAC") 389009 to the Company.
- Affiant is personally familiar with all of the Support to be received by the Company, and with how the Company will use all of the Support that it receives.
- The Company is filing this affidavit in compliance with 47 C.F.R. § 54.314, which requires certification by the state to the FCC and USAC that all high-cost federal Support will be used by carriers within each state only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services within which the Support is intended, as required by Section 254(e) of the Act and 47 C.F.R. § 54.7. The Company is also filing this affidavit in compliance with the NDPSC's Orders concerning certification as to the use of federal Support, including the NDPSC's August 28, 2002 Order in Case No. PU-439-02-441 and the Notice issued by Patrick Fahn on July 21, 2015 in Case No. PU-15-574. This affidavit is filed to facilitate the Company's receipt of federal Support for all four quarters of 2016.
- 5. The Company hereby certifies that the federal Support received during the preceding calendar year, and to be used in the coming calendar year, was and will be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the Support is intended, pursuant to and consistent with Section 254(e) of the Act and 47 C.F.R. § 54.7 and 54.314.

Dated this 28th day of July, 2015.

Badlands Cellular of North Dakota Limited Partnership By Joseph Wurst Assistant Secretary of CommNet Cellular Inc. d/b/a Verizon Wireless, Badlands Cellular of North Dakota Limited Partnership State of Florida) ss. County of Seminole On this 28 day of July____, 2015, before me, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, personally appeared Joseph Wurst, Assistant Secretary of CommNet Cellular Inc. d/b/a Verizon Wireless, Managing Agent of Badlands Cellular of North Dakota Limited Partnership. Meid Jamos - Cedellos
Notary Public

My Commission expires Suptember 3, 2018 HEIDI RAMOS-CEDILLOS Commission # FF 156732 My Commission Expires September 03, 2018